

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims: Please amend the claims as follows:

We claim:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A method Method for the isolation of RNA from a sample, samples, characterised by the following method steps: comprising

- a) provision of providing a magnetite solid phase;
- b) provision of providing a binding buffer which comprises guanidinium thiocyanate ~~in~~ at a concentration which, after mixing with the sample, produces a final concentration of > 2.5M guanidinium thiocyanate;
- c) mixing of the sample with the magnetite solid phase and the binding buffer in the presence of phosphate, where a wherein said phosphate is present in the mixture at a concentration which supports the binding of RNA to said solid phase is present in this mixture;
- d) isolation of isolating the solid phase with the bound RNA.

Claim 2. (Currently Amended) A method Method according to Claim 1, ~~characterised in that,~~ after step d), the solid phase is further comprising optionally washing the solid phase washed, and subsequently eluting the RNA is subsequently eluted from the solid phase.

Claim 3. (Currently Amended) A method Method according to Claim 2, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the elution is carried out using an elution ~~buffers~~ buffer which ~~facilitate~~ facilitates a pH range > 7 and ~~comprise~~ which comprises phosphate.

Claim 4. (Currently Amended) A method Method according to Claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the binding buffer additionally comprises a chelator ~~chelators, such as EDTA.~~

Claim 5. (Currently Amended) A method Method according to Claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the solid phase consists of magnetite particles having a diameter of 0.01 to 2 µm and a specific surface area of 1 – 100 m²/g.

Claim 6. (Cancelled)

Claim 7. (Cancelled)

Claim 8. (Cancelled)

Claim 9. (New) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the chelator is EDTA.

Claim 10. (New) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the RNA molecules are selectively isolated compared to DNA molecules.

Claim 11. (New) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the binding buffer comprises guanidium thiocyanate (GTC) at a concentration of greater than 3 mol/l.

Claim 12. (New) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the binding buffer comprises at least between 4 and 8 mol/l of guanidium thiocyanate (GTC) and between 5 and 200 mmol/l of EDTA.

Claim 13. (New) A method according to Claim 1, comprising additionally employing at least one of an elution buffer, a wash buffer or a phosphate salt solution.

Claim 14. (New) A method according to Claim 1, wherein said phosphate comprises inorganic phosphate or organic phosphate.

Claim 15. (New) A method according to Claim 14, wherein said phosphate comprises sodium hydrogenphosphate or creatine phosphate.

Claim 16. (New) A method according to Claim 14, wherein said phosphate is present at a concentration from between 2 to 50 mM inclusive.

Claim 17. (New) A method for the selective isolation of RNA from a sample, wherein said sample comprises RNA and DNA molecules, comprising

- a) providing a magnetite solid phase;
- b) providing a binding buffer which comprises guanidinium thiocyanate at a concentration which, after mixing with the sample, produces a final concentration of > 2.5M

- guanidinium thiocyanate;
- c) mixing the sample with the magnetite solid phase and the binding buffer in the presence of phosphate, wherein said phosphate is present in the mixture at a concentration which supports the binding of RNA to said solid phase;
 - d) isolating the solid phase with the selectively bound RNA with respect to DNA.

Claim 18. (New) A method according to Claim 15, wherein the RNA molecules are selectively isolated compared to DNA molecules.